

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 01928 011542Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04
ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /100 W
-----012227 092912 /41

R 011421Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9175

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 1928

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD GATT BE

SUBJECT: MFA RENEWAL

REF: STATE 38558

1. IN ABSENCE OF GROOTHAERT, WHO IS IN CAIRO WITH MISSION HEADED BY CROWN PRINCE ALBERT, EMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR DISCUSSED RENEWAL OF MFA WITH DEHENNIN, DEPUTY TO DIRECTOR OF THE ECONOMIC SECTION OF THE BELGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ALONG LINES REFTEL. SHE ALSO LEFT PAPER WITH HIM GIVING DEPARTMENT'S POINTS BEARING ON RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT. DEHENNIN, FORMERLY IN CHARGE OF TRADE MATTERS IN THE MINISTRY, WAS FAMILIAR WITH THE MFA AND WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 01928 011542Z

THE CURRENT SITUATION. HE SAID THE U.S. DEMARCHE WAS TIMELY SINCE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT INTERMINISTERIAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 3, AND U.S. APPROACH IS APPRECIATED BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

2. ACCORDING TO DEHENNIN, BELGIAN POSITION IS NOT YET FIXED. BELGIAN INDUSTRY POSITION IS ALIGNED WITH THE FRENCH. INDUSTRY

WANTS GLOBALIZATION AND SLOWER GROWTH RATE FOR TEXTILE IMPORTS FROM THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE, NOW HEADED BY KNOOPS, AN IMPORTANT POLITICAL FIGURE IN BELGIUM, ALSO FAVORS FRENCH POSITION, AS DOES MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. THE BELGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOWEVER, IS INCLINED TO FAVOR THE U.S. POSITION, IN PART REFLECTING THE BELGIAN POSITION ON NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES. THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO APPEAR FORTHCOMING ON ECONOMIC MATTERS AFFECTING THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. DEHENNIN SAID THAT THE BELGIAN INTERMINISTERIAL MEETING THIS WEEK IS BEING PREPARED FOR THE EC COUNCIL MEETING NEXT WEEK. THE BELGIAN POSITION WILL BE STRONGLY DEBATED BEFORE IT IS FINALIZED, GIVEN THE CONFLICTING

VIEWS WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND STRONG PRESSURE FROM BELGIUM'S STAGGERING TEXTILE INDUSTRY. DEHENNIN WILL INFORM THE EMBASSY OF THE OUTCOME OF THE MARCH 3 DISCUSSION.

3. DEHENNIN SAID HE THOUGHT THE GERMAN POSITION WAS TOO VAGUELY DEFINED AT THIS POINT TO ATTRACT SUPPORT FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS. HE WAS ALSO CONCERNED THAT THE DUTCH POSITION, WHICH HE SAID HAD EARLIER BEEN CLOSE TO THE U.S. POSITION, APPEARED TO BE VEERING OFF TOWARD THE FRENCH POSITION. THE MAIN PRESSURES IN THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT WERE THE OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH LDC ISSUES, NOTABLY PRONK, BUT THERE WAS STRONG OPPOSITION FROM THE DUTCH INDUSTRY AND OTHER PARTS OF THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT, SIMILAR TO THE SITUATION IN BELGIUM. DEHENNIN INDICATED THAT THE BENELUX COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE AMONG THEMSELVES PRIOR TO DETERMINING THEIR FINAL POSITIONS AND PRIOR TO THE MEETING OF THE EC COUNCIL. RENNER
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 01928 011542Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, TEXTILES, NEGOTIATIONS, INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE01928
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770070-0955
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703107/aaaadqem.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1b0f28ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 38558
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2955027
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MFA RENEWAL
TAGS: ETRD, BE, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1b0f28ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009